

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of automated posting of an image printed to a sender printer, the method comprising:
 - printing the image on the sender printer; and
 - automatically posting the image to a network site via the sender printer.
2. The method of claim 1, comprising defining a communication path between the network site and the sender printer.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein defining a communication path includes defining a network communication link including an Internet communication link.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein defining the communication path between the network site and the sender printer includes registering the network site with the sender printer.
5. The method of claim 2, wherein defining the communication path includes registering the network site with the sender printer, and wherein registering the network site includes defining the network site to be a website.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein defining the communication path further includes defining a unique address associated with the website, and registering the website address with the sender printer.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein defining the website address includes defining the unique address associated with the website as an IP address.
8. The method of claim 2, wherein defining the communication path between the network site and the sender printer includes defining the sender

printer to include a posting system controller and a web access mechanism, including a network interface.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the sender printer automatically posts the image to the network site via the posting system controller and the web access mechanism.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein printing the image on the sender printer includes transferring the image to the sender printer.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein transferring the image to the sender printer includes the sender printer receiving the image via a cable link, a wireless link, CD ROM, or a removable memory.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the sender printer receiving the image includes removing the removable memory from a digital camera and inserting the removable memory into the sender printer.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the sender printer receiving the image via the removable memory includes defining the sender printer to include a removable memory port, and wherein the sender printer receiving the image includes receiving the image via the removable memory port.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein automatically posting the image to the network site includes registering the sender printer with the network site.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein registering the sender printer with the network site includes defining a printer network address, and wherein defining the printer network address includes defining a unique address associated with the sender printer and registering the printer network address with the network site.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein defining the network address includes defining the unique address associated with the sender printer as an IP address.

17. The method of claim 1, wherein the sender printer automatically posting the image to the network site includes defining a posting criterion, and wherein defining the posting criterion includes defining posting options for posting the image to the network site.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein defining the posting criterion further includes defining a sender interface, and wherein defining the posting criterion includes defining the posting criterion via the sender interface.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein defining the posting options includes at least one of registering sender information, network information, printing options, and posting options.

20. The method of claim 14, wherein registering the sender printer with the network site includes registering a sender to post the image to the network site.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein registering the sender information includes providing a username and a password of the sender, and the printer network address for the sender printer.

22. The method of claim 5, wherein defining the network site to be a website includes selecting the website via the sender interface, and wherein selecting the website to which the image is to be posted includes registering the website with the sender printer via the sender interface.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein registering the printing options includes selecting at least one of a file format input, a file format output, a print

medium size, a print medium type, a number of copies, a printing layout, a color printing option, and a finishing option.

24. The method of claim 19, wherein registering the posting options includes selecting at least one of a delivery, a method, a gallery, an image size, and attributes.

25. The method of claim 1, wherein automatically posting the image to the network site includes sending an e-mail to the network site with the image as an attachment.

26. The method of claim 1, wherein the sender printer automatically posting the image to the network site includes defining the posting of the image to the network site as a direct transfer via a File Transfer Protocol (FTP).

27. The method of claim 1, wherein the sender printer automatically posting the image to the network site includes defining the posting of the image to the network site as a direct transfer via Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP).28.

The method of claim 1, wherein automatically posting the image to the website includes posting the image to the network site via the network communications link according to the posting criterion predefined by the sender.

28. A system for automated posting of an image sent to a printer to a network site, the system comprising:

a sender printer configured to receive the image for printing and automated posting of the image to a website according to a predefined posting criterion.

29. The system of claim 28, wherein the sender printer includes a removable memory port.

30. The system of claim 28, wherein the sender printer includes a posting system controller, an embedded web access mechanism and a sender interface allowing the sender printer to automatically post the image to the website.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein the posting system controller includes a processor, a memory, device-specific hardware, and input/output circuitry; wherein embedded web access mechanism includes a printer web page, a printer web server, and a network interface.

32. The system of claim 30, wherein the embedded web access mechanism allows the sender printer to communicate with the network site regardless of the network site's operating platform.

33. The system of claim 31, wherein the printer web server is adapted to generate the printer web page, wherein the printer web page is configured to provide the sender interface, and wherein the sender interface is configured to provide a control communications link to the posting system controller for defining a posting criterion.

34. The system of claim 28, wherein the sender printer is configured to communicate with the website via a network communications link for automatically posting the image to the network site.

35. The system of claim 28, wherein the sender interface includes a field for defining posting criterion.

36. The system of claim 35, wherein the sender interface posting criterion includes at least one of a delivery option, a gallery option, and an image size field.

37. A system for automated posting of an image sent to a printer to a network site, the system comprising:

 a sender printer including a system memory having predefined posting criterion stored therein, and a system controller configured to receive the image for printing and automated posting of the image to a website according to the predefined posting criterion.

38. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method of automated posting of an image to a network site, the method comprising:

 printing the image on the sender printer; and
 automatically posting the image to a network site via the sender printer.

39. A sender interface for use in automatically posting an image, which is printed to a sender printer, to a network site, comprising:

 printing options for selecting print criterion for printing the image on the sender printer; and

 posting options for selecting posting criterion for posting the image to the network site when the image is received by the sender printer for printing.

40. The system of claim 39, wherein the printing options include at least one of a file format input, a file format output, a print medium size, a print medium type, a number of copies, a print layout, a color printing option, and a finishing option field.

41. The system of claim 39, wherein the posting options include at least one of a delivery, a gallery, and an image size field.

42. The system of claim 39, further comprising at least one of a sender information category that identifies the sender and a network information category that allows registration of the network site with the sender printer.